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# Board of Trustees Meeting, November 10, 1997

University Of Maine System

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
Board of Trustees

University of Maine at Machias  
November 10, 1997

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

PRESENT: Sally Vamvakias, Chair; George Wood, Vice Chair; Gregory Cyr, John DiMatteo, Albert Glickman, Penny Harris, Ralph Hodgkins, Bennett Katz, James Mullen, Catherine Pinkham, Esther Rauch, and Wickham Skinner. Absent: Duke Albanese, Judith Andrucki, James Caron, and Donald McDowell. Faculty Representatives: Sheila Bennett, Luisa Deprez, Ivan Fernandez, Wendy Kindred, James Lehman, Kevin McCartney, and Marie Shields. Student Representatives: George Arey, Valerie Collins, Bradley Coull, Absalom Dow, Dana Furlong, Mitschka Hartley, and Angela Shea. Absent: Heather Haskins. University Presidents: Owen Cargol, Michael Easton, Peter Hoff, Theodora Kalikow, Charles Lyons, and Paul Nordstrom. Absent: Richard Pattenaude. Chancellor and Staff: Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart, Tracy Bigney, Samuel D'Amico, Tracy Elliott, Richard Eustis, Mary Ann Haas, Sue Ann Huseman, Nina Lavoie, and Russell Smith. Press and public.

Trustee Sally Vamvakias, Chair, convened the meeting.

1. Citizen Comment Citizen Comment is a period during Board meetings regularly set aside to receive comments from the public.

**Jon Reisman**, UMM faculty member, spoke to diversity in the System, asking the Board to either define it or to initiate a process whereby diversity becomes a community value. A more complete compilation of his remarks are appended to the file of these minutes.

**Sherry Cox**, UMM student, spoke to the importance of keeping the Calais site open and available for non-traditional students.

2. Acceptance of Minutes Minutes for September 21-22, 1997 were **approved** as written.

3. Chair's Remarks and Agenda Trustee Vamvakias introduced new Student Trustee Catherine Pinkham, who was attending her first meeting, and George Arey, new UMF Student Representative, Valerie Collins, new UMA Student Representative, and Luisa Deprez, new USM Faculty Representative. Trustee Vamvakias also introduced Dr. Brian Blanchard, the new Provost at the University of Maine at Augusta, and Dr. James Doran, the new Executive Assistant to the President and Director of Administrative Planning and Research at the University of Maine at Augusta. Both gentlemen were seated in the audience.

**Campus Visits.** Trustee George Wood, Vice Chair, briefed the Board on his visit to the sites and centers located in and near the University of Maine at Presque Isle and the University of Maine at Fort Kent. He also took in two high school sites in the area. He urged other members of the Board to make similar visits. Trustee Wickham Skinner visited the Thomaston Center and said he saw much enthusiasm both from faculty and students.

Trustee Vamvakias reported that she and the Chancellor had visited six campuses during the Fall talking about the year's agenda and urging people to vote yes on Question 3 of the Bond Referendum. On behalf of the Board, she thanked everyone involved in that endeavor.

4. Chancellor's Report and Agenda. The Chancellor touched on three topics of interest: the bond referendum, joint request of Maine Maritime Academy and the Technical Colleges with UMS to the Legislature, and a special computer linkage with MMA.

The Bond Referendum was a great success with 55% of the constituency in favor. He said the success was due to the fact that it was a good thing providing access to Maine citizens; had great partnerships working with Alpha-One, Women, Work and Community, the Teamsters AFL-CIO, and a whole range of community organizations, and the hard work and communication efforts of the Presidents, and the faculty and student representatives on the campuses. The Chancellor expressed his appreciation to all.

The joint effort previously mentioned had to do with the State surplus. While there are many ways the State can invest in the people of Maine, the Chancellor reported that one that is being proposed is that the State give \$4 million in scholarship money to be available to students at UMS, Maine Maritime Academy and the Technical College System. The \$4 million would be matched with another \$4 million to form an endowment which, depending on the return on that endowment, could help a thousand students a year in perpetuity. UMS has also proposed a similar amount for equipment and technology for a public/private match also involving a joint effort of the three institutions.

Thanks to the work of Russell Smith, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, and his colleagues, Maine Maritime Academy can take advantage of the System's computer capacity to put their student records and accounting system on line over a period of time. MMA would pay the System for the out-of-pocket expenses and save itself a substantial amount of money by not having to invest in expensive software systems. The move also sends a message that the System is pleased to use these assets in helping the State and its colleagues in education.

5. Aspirations Initiative. Chancellor MacTaggart spoke about the issues raised by the panel of experts who were present at the last Board meeting regarding the aspirations of students, and what he heard when he and the Trustees went out and listened to what people had to say during the Forums which took place during the Fall. He said three themes surfaced during discussions: the cost of education, the need for student orientation, especially for first-time college students, and perceived transfer problems.

Comments from Trustees who attended the first round of forums, which were held in Ellsworth, Mexico, Thomaston, Millinocket, and Newport, were as follows:

- students don't have a feel for what college life is like;
- UMS needs to get out to schools to visit and talk with students;
- UMS needs to promote more publicity about the campuses;
- students don't know how to access opportunity; UMS needs to provide role models and mentors;
- families haven't learned how to change as the work-world has changed;
- families don't understand that education is an investment in their child's future;
- UMS needs programs that encourage students to go to college;
- great support for sites and centers; students felt distanced from larger campuses;
- family businesses draw potential students away from higher education;
- finance an issue; no knowledge of how to get financial aid;
- no knowledge about "jump-start" programs;
- need to get high school counselors excited about campuses;

- get student teachers to talk about their alma maters;
- get first year and sophomore college students back to their high schools to talk about their experience;
- better services for first-year, first-generation college students.

At the January meeting, there will be a more detailed report on the Fall Forums with initial policy recommendations included.

6. Consent Agenda. On motion of Trustee Wood, which was seconded, the following resolutions were adopted:

- **Voting Degrees.** The Board authorized the awarding of degrees in course for the Fall Commencement 1997 and the Spring and Summer Commencements 1998 to those students fully recommended by the appropriate faculties and the Presidents of the respective institutions and/or divisions of the University of Maine System.
- **Appointment of Robert I. Katz as Libra Professor, UMA.** The Board approved the appointment of Robert I. Katz as Libra Professor at the University of Maine at Augusta for the period January 1 through May 31, 1998, with a stipend of \$5,000 and \$2,000 for research and travel expenses.
- **Appointment of Dr. Stephen Worchel as Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, USM.** The Board appointed Dr. Stephen Worchel, Professor of Psychology, as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern Maine for a five year term effective January 1, 1998, at a fiscal year salary of \$92,000.
- **UMA Reorganization.** The Board approved the reorganization of the University of Maine at Augusta as submitted to be effective January 1, 1998; and authorized the Chancellor to approve the appointments of the new Deans in accordance with the reorganization plan at a salary range of between \$60,000 to \$65,000 and report back to the Board of Trustees for information.
- **Unrelated Printing Income.** The Board voted that the University of Maine System may provide outside printing services to publicly funded entities and commercial printers, but only if a request is made by such entity and all costs are charged. The income generated by these services is subject to the Unrelated Business Income Tax. These services must conform to the intent of Board Policy 710.
- **Reappointment of External Auditors for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999.** The Board reappointed KPMG Peat Marwick and Baker Newman & Noyes as the University System's independent public accountants for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, with fees not to exceed \$96,000 and \$100,000 respectively, including out-of-pocket expenses.
- **Gifts, Grants, and Awards.** The Board accepted with gratitude all gifts, grants and awards listed under the date of November 10, 1997.
- **Collective Bargaining Agreement.** The Board authorized the Chancellor to conclude the collective bargaining agreement with the University of Maine System Professional Staff Association, MEA/NEA.
- **UM Alumni House Land Lease.** The Board approved the lease of land for a sixty-year term

with provision for renewal and the sale of buildings as identified on the attached map at the University of Maine to the University of Maine Foundation and the General Alumni Association subject to and contingent upon the prior review and approval of the Chancellor, the President of the University of Maine and University legal counsel.

- **Construction of Dormitory/Dining Hall, Darling Center.** The Board authorized the construction of a dormitory/dining hall at the Darling Marine Center at a cost not to exceed \$1.2 million with \$200,000 of the funding coming from a NSF Grant and the balance of \$1 million from University Revenue Bonds which will be repaid from income from the Ira C. Darling Trust. Further, the Board approved and adopted the Declaration of Official Intent, pursuant to Treasury Regulation §1.150-2, as amended.

7. Committee Matters and Action

Committee of the Whole:

**Report on UMA Name Change.** Trustee Vamvakias presented the following resolution, which was seconded and adopted:

The Board of Trustees receives with appreciation the report of the UMA Name Change Working Group. Having concluded that the names suggested by the Working Group do not meet the criteria, the Board hereby directs the Chancellor to consult with the members of the Working Group and the President of the University of Maine at Augusta on continuing the process of identifying an appropriate name. In continuing this process, it should be understood that the Board has reached consensus that *Maine State University*, and any version thereof, is not an acceptable or appropriate option.

Trustee Greg Cyr congratulated President Cargol, his faculty, staff, and students on a notable achievement and asked President Cargol to comment on the reaccreditation of the University of Maine at Augusta. President Cargol reported that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges had sent a team to the Campus recently, which was a follow-up to a visit initiated a couple of years ago, to check to see if the university had made progress in addressing a number of concerns. He was pleased to announce that the committee, after reviewing the documentation and visiting the Chancellor, members of the Board, and the campus community, appears ready to recommend continuation of accreditation. President Cargol expressed his indebtedness to the Board, faculty, staff, students, and community for the hard work in preparing for the visitation.

**Distribution of Resources.** Trustee Wood noted that Distribution of Resources was on the agenda for information only. The Chancellor had given a detailed report to the Committee of the Whole earlier in the day.

Academic Affairs:

**The Transfer Project.** Trustee Skinner reported for the Academic Affairs Committee. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Sue Ann Huseman commended UMF President Theo Kalikow, Katherine Weber, Jessica Mieszkowski, and Gary Lagasse for their work on the transfer project. Ms. Mieszkowski and Mr. Lagasse from the Computing and Data Processing Service, UM, demonstrated the program which will be available on-line for students and faculty. There was also a testimonial by E.J. Hampson, a UMM student, who has accessed the more user-friendly transfer

process to complete her education. She pointed out that it is the student's responsibility to take charge of their transfer and that the new system gives the student the information and support to complete the process successfully.

**Review of Academic Programs.** Trustee Skinner reported that in accordance with L.D. 1557, An Act to Create Efficient and Effective Administration of the University of Maine System, the System had been requested to "conduct a review and evaluation of programs existing on the effective date of this Act". The System has consistently reviewed its programs on a regular basis and reported to the Board. He pointed out that the current report lists both new and eliminated programs in the System.

**Report on Libra Professorships.** Trustee Skinner commended Vice Chancellor Huseman and her staff on the Libra Professorships Report, which was included for information. He said the Academic Affairs Committee would like to evaluate the data submitted and report back to the Board in January. He invited comments from other members of the Board during the interim. Trustee George Wood suggested that the comments be submitted in writing. He also expressed concern about the repetition of five-year terms and reappointments, which had been discussed at previous Board meetings. Vice Chancellor Huseman assured him that the Chief Academic Officers are well aware of the Board's concern on the matter.

Audit/Finance:

**Annual Review of FY97 Financial Report.** Trustee John DiMatteo, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported for the Committee. He noted that in the Consent Agenda KPMG Peat Marwick had been reappointed as the System's external auditors. He reminded the Board that one of its duties is to safeguard the assets of the University System which is done through financial planning, setting of financial policy, and oversight of financial initiatives. He said most of the aforementioned is a function of the Finance Committee. Beyond that, the Audit Committee does three important things: assures an effective system of internal controls, oversees an internal audit department which reports directly to the Board of Trustees, and, finally, hires an external auditing firm which is experienced in academic functions. Trustee DiMatteo stated that John Moriarty, Partner, KPMG Peat Marwick, meets regularly with the Audit Committee and was present at an earlier meeting to report that the System has a "clean certificate"--saw no exception to the System's accounting practices, policies, or financial presentation.

On motion of Trustee DiMatteo, which was seconded,

The Board accepted the University of Maine System Financial Statements for FY97 as prepared by the University System and audited by KPMG Peat Marwick LLP.

8. Information Items. Trustee Vamvakias read the following items which were included on the agenda for information only:

- Report on Diversity
- Summary of Fall 1997 Enrollments
- First Quarter Maintenance Report
- Summary of Current Statistics
- Board Agenda Calendar

9. Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on January 25-26, 1998,

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at the University of Southern Maine.

Trustee Vamvakias thanked the Chancellor, his staff, the Presidents and their staffs, and specifically the University of Maine at Machias for hosting the Board Meeting. She acknowledged President Nordstrom, and his assistants Penny Foss and Susan Palmer who were seated in the audience. Trustee Vamvakias also thanked the Faculty and Student Representatives whose input she said is vital to the Board's deliberations.

Adjournment.

Sandra F. Johnson for  
Mary Ann Haas, Clerk